



The shekel

Volume XV, No. 4

July-August 1982

This is the
highest WWI
German
military
medal ... the
'Blue Max.'



How Hitler
Tried to Deny
the Jewish
Fighter Pilot
Ace who
Won It.



Lt. Wilhelm Frankl on a mission (over France) in an LVG CII.



Published by the
AMERICAN ISRAEL
NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION, INC.



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The AMERICAN ISRAEL NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION is a cultural and educational organization dedicated to the study and collection of Israel's coinage, past and present, and all aspects of Judaica Numismatica. It is a democratically organized, membership oriented group, chartered as a non-profit association under the laws of the State of New York.

As an educational organization, the primary responsibility is the development of programs, publications, meeting and other activities which will bring news, history, technical, social and related background to the study of numismatics. Membership is open to all men and women of goodwill and to clubs who share the common goals of the Association.

The Association is the publisher of THE SHEKEL, a six times a year journal and news magazine prepared for the enlightenment and education of the membership. It neither solicits or accepts advertising, paid or unpaid. Its views are the views and opinions of the writers and the pages and columns are open to all who submit material deemed by the editors to be of interest to the members.

The Association sponsors such major cultural/social/numismatic events as an annual Study Tour of Israel, national and regional conventions and such other activities and enterprises which will benefit the members. Dues are paid annually at \$10.00 per year; life memberships are offered to all at \$150.00 per year. Junior membership (under 18) \$2.50 per year. Your interest and participation will be welcomed by any of the affiliated clubs or as a general member of the Association.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Morris Bram



Dear Friends,

You will read in this issue all about AINA's Fifteenth Anniversary at the Greater New York Coin Convention. It was heartwarming to meet with friends who have shared the growth of AINA with me.

The success of this occasion required endless hours and dedicated service by such enthusiastic devotees as Julius Turoff, *General Chairman*, as Moe Weinschel, who won the nickname, *Mighty Moe*. He was everywhere, helping committees to meet the start-up deadline. To Jack Garfield, who came up from Florida . . . to the Steffanacci family, who made possible a giant banquet success . . . to Stanley Yulish, who chaired the forum . . . to Faye Stern and her committee who put in a hundred hours at the registration desk and to Faye Stern again at the Board Meeting and in numerous volunteer efforts . . . to Nat Sobel, Norman Peppin, Frank Stickel and Michael Druck; and to Sidney Olson, who chaired our banquet . . . to Martin Morgenstern and Barbara Druck . . . a very, very sincere Thank You from AINA.

At the Convention, your Board adopted new By-Laws to replace our first guide lines. You will receive a printed set as a member shortly. The Convention included a fine Annual Membership Meeting with excellent open discussion of our goals and programs.

We are now looking forward to the September Greater New York Currency and Coin Convention on September 9th through 12th at the New York Sheraton Hotel. We are planning a meeting of all the I.N.S. Clubs in the Metropolitan Greater New York Region to meet with the Board.

You will be excited to learn that AINA is undertaking a most spectacular contribution to the world of numismatics. We are dedicating a special issue of *The Shekel* to provide in one publication, many of the fine educational and scholarly papers relating to Holocaust numismatics.

If you have been seeking the past issues of *The Shekel* where some of this material originally appeared, you will be pleased to know that we will make it part of the body of work of this giant September/October 1982 issue.

I wish to thank *Coin World*, *World Coin News*, *The Numismatist* and the many individuals in the United States, Canada and Israel, whose contributions will make this project possible. We intend to circulate extra copies in paperback and possibly even in hardcover editions. We anticipate that you will be able to bring the story of AINA's educational program to concerned citizens everywhere with this special edition.

Shalom,

Morris

THE JEW WITH THE BLUE MAX

BY HEINZ JOACHIM NOWARRA



Wilhelm Frankl
1893-1917

THE JEW WITH THE BLUE MAX

—INTRODUCTION—

In Germany, during 1938, a book was published concerning the lives of German Aces who had been awarded the Pour le Merite, nick-named the "Blue Max". On page 544 of this book is a table of contents, in which is listed the name "Frankl +", but no information as to where to find a description of his life, as is the case with all the other Aces. Research into earlier publications reveals the cause of this silence. Frankl was a Jew. And, since the 1938 book was published during Hitler's regime, all information on Frankl, who was not only an Ace, but an Old Eagle, was suppressed.

The author, long intrigued by Frankl, devoted many years in an effort to lift the curtain which covered the life history of this man. I met with little success until a photo-album which had belonged to the widow of one of Frankl's comrades, found its way to me. Another source was a set of World War One war bulletins. So now, after long investigation, it is possible to reconstruct the history of a truly heroic life.

Berlin, March, 1967
Heinz Joachim Nowarra

Wilhelm Frankl was born on December 20th, 1893. He was the son of a Jewish businessman who resided in Hamburg, Germany. Frankl's family later moved to Frankfurt/Main, as he attended the Real-school there. Thereafter, he moved with his mother to Berlin-Charlottenburg. After school, he became interested in aviation, which at this time was capturing the interest of the entire German public. In 1912, the so-called "National-Flugspende" was founded, sponsored by Prince Heinrich, brother of the Kaiser. Prince Heinrich collected money to develop successful and reliable aircraft.

By 1912, seven million Marks had been collected. What this meant, was conclusively proven prior to the outbreak of World War One. At the be-

ginning of 1913, Germany held only three international records. These were for carrying several passengers on endurance flights. By the beginning of World War One, all international records, with the exception of maximum speed, were in German hands.

The enthusiasm for flying had also captured the imagination of young Wilhelm Frankl. He went to Johannisthal, the famous German pre-war aviation center, and became a flight student of Germany's first female pilot, the charming Melly Beese. He learned to fly very soon, and by August 20, 1913, he obtained pilot's license number 490. Considering the fact that only 817 civil pilot's licenses were issued until July 15, 1914, it may be appreciated that Frankl had, indeed, an early number.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The field of Judaic numismatics includes the colorful area of military decorations. West Germany's Heinz Joachim Nowarra provides this rare gem of Judaica, originally published by Aeronautica John W. Caler, 7506 Clybourn, Sun Valley, Calif. 91352.

AINA Member and militaria expert Stan Brown of the Israel Numismatic Society of Cleveland brought "The Jew with the Blue Max" to our attention. Here with art is the story of a forgotten ace of World War I, a classic victim of Nazi history revision until Nowarra's research brought back the facts. D.A.



Lt. Frankl testing the Pfalz D VI.

During his pre-war flying activities, he made the acquaintance of another young airman and engineer, Walter Hohndorf, who was the first German aerobatic flyer. These young airmen were to meet again, two years later, among the first dozen German fighter Aces.

When the 1914 mobilization occurred, Wilhelm Frankl did not hesitate to volunteer. As a pilot, he immediately joined Feldflieger-Abteilung 40.

Frankl flew Albatros and LVG biplanes without armament at first. Later, in the spring of 1915, he obtained one of the first planes, armed with one machine gun for the observer. Frankl's unpretentious and complaisant attitude, coupled with his excellent flying ability, soon won the affection of his superiors.

A full chapter of Hptm. von Koerber's 1917 book is devoted to Frankl. In it Koerber says: "Never had I seen such a passionate pilot. It was often just alarming, when in bad April weather and storms over the North Sea, and in furious fire of the

anti-aircraft guns, he was underway for an extraordinary long time, making his feared visits to all the important places of the enemy Front and back areas, such as Nieuport, Ypres, Dunkirk, and numerous railroad stations, military camps, and depots." Frankl also did outstanding work as an artillery-spotter, directing the fire of the German long-range guns.

In late 1915, the French brought a dangerous weapon into service, the Voisin Avion-canon, which carried a 4 cm gun as its main weapon. On January 10th, 1916, Frankl decided to try to shoot down one of these heavily armed aircraft. Over Dixmuiden, he succeeded, and forcing the machine down behind the German lines in the vicinity of Dixmuiden. This was Frankl's first victory in aerial combat.

The captured Voisin was tested extensively, and later was exhibited together with older captured enemy aircraft. This exhibition traveled through Germany, and was visited by many people in the larger towns and cities. Three weeks after his first victory, Frankl downed another Voi-

sin, this one near Chaulnes, on February 1st, 1916.

About this time, an important development was taking place in Wilhelm Frankl's personal life. He had fallen in love! The object of his affection was the daughter of an active Austrian Navy officer who lived in Vienna. The girl was a Christian, and she wanted to convert Frankl to Christianity. After a long fight with himself over the matter, Frankl agreed. The couple were finally married early in 1917.

Earlier, on May 4th, 1916, Frankl had scored his 4th victory, this time against a British aircraft. Shortly thereafter, he was promoted to Lieutenant der Reserve. The battle at Verdun had become one of the most bloody and cruel conflicts in the world's history, taking more and more human lives on both sides. Now, an awful blow would bring the German forces near to a total breakdown. After an intense and lengthy barrage, the Battle of the Somme began on June 24th, 1916. The superiority of the French and British flying forces was so overwhelming that no German aircraft was able to fly higher than 3000 ft., and then only behind German lines.

German losses on the ground and in the air increased daily. The outnumbered Fokker pilots fought desperately against the new faster and better climbing enemy aircraft. It became necessary to strengthen the little Fokker fighter groups. All Fokker pilots were required, including the young new Lieutenant Frankl.

Frankl was sent to Chateau Vaux, seat of the new Kampf-Einsitzer-Kommando Vaux, long-time home of F.Fl. Abt. 23. Frankl probably scored his 5th victory with this unit, although the next war bulletin only mentions his 6th victory, on August 4th, 1916, over Beaumetz. Six days later, Frankl again proved his ability,

by sending down two more enemy planes on August 10th, 1916. Two days afterward he was awarded the famed Pour le Merite. Thus, a Jew had achieved the "Blue Max."

As a member of Jasta 4, a new fighter-plane team, Frankl scored victories number 11 through 15. Official reports place the 14th victory on October 23, 1916, and the 15th victory in January, 1917. After October 28th, 1916, Frankl was top man of the German fighter-pilots in total victory scores.

At this time, Frankl received appointment as a test pilot, and tested the Fokker D I in Schwerin. Following this, he assumed a similar post at the Pfalz Works.

Upon his return to Jasta 4, which had been equipped with Alabros D II biplanes, as replacements for the obsolete Halberstadt D II's, Frankl scored his 15th victory on January 23rd, 1917. At this time, none of the original old aces of Jasta 4 were still in action. In February, 1917, Frankl became the acting commander of Jasta 4, which he led until his death. As leader of Jasta 4, he scored his 16th victory, but was once again transferred to the test command. Near the end of March, 1917, Frankl returned to action, and on the 6th of April, was at the peak of his flying career when he succeeded in downing three enemy aircraft during one day. Unfortunately, he met his demise two days later, over Vitry-Sailly. By a strange twist of fate, the date was on Easter Sunday, April, 1917.

Today, the name Frankl is forgotten, not only in Germany, but also, pitifully, by the Jewish people, who probably cannot forgive that Frankl left his faith only for love. But we can be sure that Wilhelm Frankl, deep inside his heart, remained a Jew, in spite of the fact that he felt German, and fought for his fatherland, as did many other Jews. He was



Lt. Frankl, leader of Jasta 4, January, 1917.

He died Easter Sunday, 1917.

not the only Jewish member of the German Flying Corps, either. Only two other names may be mentioned on this occasion, and strangely enough, they both belonged to the same unit, Jagdstaffel 26.

The leader of Jagdstaffel 26 was Bruno Loerzer, close friend of Goring, later the Commander of Jagdgeschwader 3, and during the time of the third Reich, Generaloberst. Serving with Jasta 26 during the last months of 1918 was a young Jewish pilot, Vice-Feldwebel Beckhardt. He was not a great ace, but did score two or three victories. What is remarkable is the fact that he carried as personal markings on his aircraft (sometimes a Siemen D III) a swastika!

Germany's Oldest Pilot

The other Jewish member of Jasta 26, was Jacob Wolf. He was an old man to be an active Jagdstaffel pilot.

At the age of 42, he was probably the oldest fighter pilot in Germany. Wolf also scored some victories, and even after the war, he proved that he was a faithful comrade, when his former Jasta leader came to him requesting help. As most of these officers did not like to work, Wolf made him chief of one of the many cigar shops, which he owned. And Loerzer was glad to have found this job. It is not widely-known, but Loerzer was later engaged to the daughter of the Jewish owner of a leading department store in Berlin. He also obtained money from these people. After 1933, Loerzer forgot all of his Jewish friends who had helped him, and also his friend Goring. How far this situation was carried is told at the beginning of this story: It was forbidden to tell, that the German Jews had done their duty for their fatherland, in the same manner as every other member of the German people. ☆

Two New Varieties of the Current Israel 50 Sheqel Banknotes

By Samuel Lachman, Haifa



Fig. 1.

The Israel newspaper Ma'ariv (6 August 1981) carried the following news item:

Bank Israel Examines Coating of Banknotes

Bank Israel issued recently to the various banks of 50 Sheqel, which bear two kinds of marks which appear near the serial numbers near the "Gate".

The marks are four small squares in dark violet and two small squares in green.

These marks are for tests carried out by the Bank Israel to try out various materials used for coating the notes. They help the Bank Israel to separate them when they are sorted in order to determine the condition of the notes in circulation.

Large quantities of notes bearing each kind of these marks will be placed into circulation.

(Translated from Hebrew)

The Bank Israel has recently issued two new kinds of the current 50 Sheqel banknotes, in order to test materials for the coating of the notes.

The Israel 50 Sheqel note issued on 24 February 1980, is identical in design and other features to the earlier 500 Lirot note.

The obverse of the new varieties remained unchanged (Fig. 1). However, the reverses have marked differences.

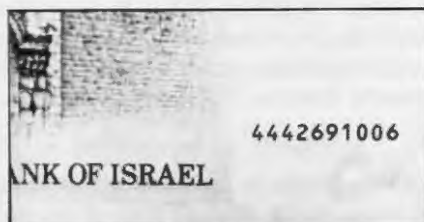
Small bars below the serial numbers in the lower right corner:

Variety I



4 bars in dark violet.

New Varieties
No bar code



Serial numbers without any further marks

Variety II

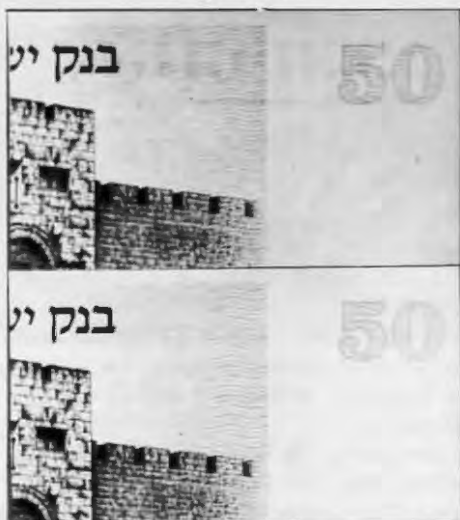


2 bars in green.

The bar code in yellowish ink was described in detail in *The Shekel*, Jan.-Feb. 1977 (Vol. X, No. 1 pp9-11.)


The bars of the new notes help the Bank of Israel to separate the notes when they are sorted in order to de-

Original issue



Bar code in yellowish ink at top right and lower left corners.

termine the condition of the notes, i.e. the period of wear.

Large quantities of notes in both varieties have been placed into circulation. 

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GREATER NEW YORK COIN CONVENTION MAY 13 - 16, 1982 HEARS PITTMAN, SWAB AND WACKS

With educational meetings, exhibits, a forum, an AINA Tour Reunion, meetings of Young Numismatists, a highly active bourse, auctions and numerous special events, including a banquet addressed by Q. David Bowers, the Greater New York Coin Convention during May 13-16, 1982 celebrated its Tenth Annual Birthday. The Convention marked the Fifteenth Birthday of the American Israel Numismatic Association.

Contingents of visitors to the New York Sheraton from over a dozen states were registered from New York, Connecticut, Ohio, New Jersey, Massachusetts, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Texas, California, Florida and numerous states in between. A guest from Puerto Rico, for the first time in AINA history, was greeted during the Banquet on Saturday evening.

AINA STALWARTS SHARE HONORS

Convention General Chairman, Julius Turoff, led an enthusiastic team of AINA activists whose expert knowledge of convention procedures assured a smooth operation.

The Educational Forum was chaired by Stanley Yulish, a member of the Board from Cleveland who introduced John J. Pittman, Past President of the ANA; attorney Kenneth Swab who brought to the convention behind-the-scenes details of Congressional hearings on the Olympic Coins program; and Mel Wacks who drew from his depth of knowledge of Biblical coinage to review claims regarding coin images attrib-

uted to the fabric shroud claimed to be of Jesus.

Exhibits included some of the rarest numismatic material with a diversity of subject matter. The Pittman collection of rare English proof sets; a panoramic display of numismatics relating to Tel Aviv; the life story of Admiral Dewey; and the story of the inventor of the Atlantic Cable were just some examples of the startling historical material presented on the *Exhibition Gallery* overlooking the Bourse. Exhibit Chairman was Martin Morgenstern assisted by Michael and Co-Chairperson Barbara Druck.

A program for young Numismatists was conducted by Florence "Dolly" Schook assisted by Robin Esakof, Cliff Levy and Scott Travers.

Publicity for the event was conducted from Florida by Frances Baum and in New York by Nat Sobel, a longtime member of the Board.

The Saturday evening banquet arrangements for tickets, tables, souvenir gifts for the ladies (a brocade jewelry case from the Orient) and door prizes of numismatic items donated by AINA was ably handled by Julius Turoff and Walter, Faye and Rocco Steffanacci.

Highlight of the banquet, chaired by Sidney L. Olson was the nostalgia-rich postcard program, *The Turn of the Century* by Q. David Bowers. With slides and commentary, Bowers raced through holiday greetings, beach fashions, the Gibson girls and numerous humorous and delightful authentic postcards of the 1900-1915 period. ☆



Standing l. to r.: Board of Directors meeting, Friday, May 14, 1982. Moe Weinschel; Alan Weinberg; Harry Flower; Dave Paszaman; Donna Sims; J.J. VanGrover; Nathan Sobel; George Gilbert; and E. Janis. Seated: Stanley Yulish; Morris Bram; Sidney L. Olson; Julius Turoff; Fred Roganson; and Irving L. Rudin.



Julius Turoff, General Chairman



Morris Bram, President, AINA

GNYCC EXHIBIT AWARDS

Best of Show

Frank Kroha: Alfred J. Robinson, Hartford numismatist, and his 1789 Washington cent.

Kagan Award

Howard M. Berlin: Palestine Mandate Numismatics.

Israel Coins and Currency

First Place - Jack Garfield: Israel coins and currency.

Israel Medals and Tokens

First Place - Alan Weinberg: The Entebbe Medal.

Second Place — A. Nachmany: Tel Aviv.

U.S. Coins and Currency

First Place - Joseph Abiuso: The Heraldic Half Eagle (1795-1807).

U.S. Medals and Tokens

First Place - Barbara Druck: Admiral Dewey, U.S. Navy.

Miscellaneous

First Place - Mel Wacks: Raoul Wallenberg Medal.

Second Place - Irving Cantor: 1965 Franklin Mint Gaming Tokens and Elongated Coins.

Club Exhibit Award

INS of Brooklyn (Three-time winner retaining the trophy).

Young Numismatist Award

First Place - Cliff Levy: U.S. Type Cents.



Forum Speakers: Kenneth Swab; Forum Chairman Stanley Yulish; Mel Wacks; and John J. Pittman.



Donna Sims and Abraham Nachmany and a New York headline



Stanley Yulish; Debra Nagle (Coin World); Abraham Nachmany; and Harry Flower



At the Educational Forum

At the Bourse

The big prize winner of the Special Exhibit Awards was the victory of the I.N.S. of Brooklyn, winning the trophy with its third First Place Award for a club exhibit. Nat Sobel accepted for the INS group.

Guests arriving at the Convention were greeted by a Registration Team headed by Faye Stern of Long Island, assisted by May Baum, Claire

Friedler, Sidney Goldfield, Michael Granis and Florence Turoff.

Dealers arriving had the assistance of the very popular and experienced Jack Garfield of Florida who was assisted by Norman Pepin, and as necessary, by Moe Weinschel who proved that you can be in two places at one time with three hands. Moe had more calls for help than Gunga Din, says Aida Weinschel.



*David Bowers honored
by Morris Bram.*

*Bram thanks John J. Pitt-
man for longterm friend-
ship with AINA.*

*Florence Schook accepts
award from Bram for
Youth Numismatics.*



*A giant 15th Birthday Party cake
was dessert for the Banquet
after a cake-cutting ceremony
led by President Morris Bram.*



*Nahum Hacohen of the IGCAM
brings greeting from Jerusalem to
Greater New York Coin Convention
and to AINA's 15th Anniversary.*

Awards were created for the event by a team of Julius Turoff, Moe Weinschel and Nat Sobel.

Auctions by Stacks and Johnson and Jensen, a special meeting for the Metropolitan Tokens and Medals Association, the British Numismatic Association of North America and of the membership of AINA were among special events conducted during the four-day event.

Fred Roganson conducted the popular AINA Tour Reunion where the past trip was reviewed for all.

The Morris Bram Club Bulletin Award was awarded to the I.N.S. of Cleveland. Donna Sims presented the award to Leonard Reuven, President and Stanley Yulish, Past President of the I.N.S. of Cleveland, in behalf of the Club. 🏆

SINAI STRATEGIC PENINSULA THROUGH CENTURIES

When Israel relinquished the Sinai April 25, Egypt reclaimed a strategic peninsula contested by nations and armies through the centuries.

The Bible's "great and terrible wilderness" into which Moses led the Israelites in search of the Promised Land, Sinai has also been crisscrossed by conquerors beyond counting. Since the time of the Pharaohs armies have used this natural land bridge between Asia and Africa.

When Israel took Sinai from Egypt in the Six Day War of 1967, Israeli tanks recrossed some of the same routes followed by Egypt's King Thutmose III when he attacked Palestine and Syria in the 15th century B.C.

Napoleon was there

Alexander the Great marched through Sinai in 332 B.C. to conquer Egypt, as did crusaders in the 12th century. Turkish Sultan Selim the Grim crossed in 1517 to make Egypt part of the Ottoman Empire. Napoleon's armies marched across its sands in 1799. In 1917 British Gen. Edmund Allenby mounted a successful attack upon Turkish-held Palestine after building a railroad beside Sinai's Mediterranean coastal road.

In the April issue of *National Geographic*, Harvey Arden notes that Egypt has exercised only intermittent sovereignty over the war-torn Sinai through the centuries.

"Ancient Egyptians controlled only western Sinai, with its copper and turquoise mines, and major trans-desert routes — the rest being wilderness ... The Ottoman Turks controlled most of Sinai for centuries before being driven back to Palestine by Mohammed Ali in the 1830s.

"Later, after occupying Egypt in 1882, the British held varying degrees of control over Sinai until finally being ousted in 1954 by President Anwar Sadat's predecessor, Gamal Abdel Nasser. Just 13 years later Israel seized control."

Thirty years of war between Israel and Egypt ended with the 1979 treaty in which Israel promised to withdraw from

EGYPTIAN COIN HONORS PEACE ACCORD



Pound coins of Egypt, .720 fine silver, depict the late President Anwar el Sadat facing left on a coin released in 1980, struck at the Abbassiyya Mint near Cairo. The coin marks the first anniversary of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty of 1979. A quill pen, symbolic of the signing of the Peace Treaty, surrounds his head.

Sinai in three years. But to Zionists who have resisted Israel's withdrawal, the north-east part of Sinai where the Israelis built most of their settlements is a God-given part of the Promised Land.

Backdrop for Bible

Biblical stories come alive in Sinai, where Moses and the Israelites wandered for 40 years.

When the Israelites made their miraculous escape from Egypt through the sea into Sinai, Moses led them to an oasis called Elim. Today similar oases dot the dunes and wadis, or streambeds, of northern Sinai and are home to most of the peninsula's 100,000 people.

The flocks of quail common to Sinai's Mediterranean coast recall the multitudes of quail the Bible says God sent to feed the Israelites. A sticky residue exuded by certain insects on the bark of the tamarisk tree in southern Sinai is often equated with the mysterious "manna" God fed to the hungering tribes.

One of Sinai's rugged mountains in the south, between the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba, is Gebel Musa (Mount Sinai) where, tradition holds, Moses received the Ten Commandments. Nearby a monastery stands on the reputed site where God spoke to Moses from the burning bush.

Famine brought Abraham—patriarch of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam—through Sinai on his way to Egypt; the Prophet Elijah took refuge from King Ahab and Queen Jezebel on Gebel Musa; and Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus passed through Sinai, fleeing into Egypt to escape the wrath of Herod.

GOLD COINS OF ISRAEL HONOR 1979 PEACE TREATY



PEACE is the message on bilingual coins of Israel, 200-lirot, .900 fine silver and 5,000-lirot, .900 fine gold, which mark the March 26, 1979, Egypt-Israel peace treaty, the result of the Camp David talks.

ISRAEL STATE MEDAL QUOTES BIBLICAL PHRASE



I WILL GIVE PEACE IN THE LAND (Leviticus 26:6) is repeated in English, Arabic and Hebrew on an Israel State medal marking the 1979 peace accord, shown above. Below, the reverse of the medal is adapted to the reverse of a 1980 "Greetings from Israel" medal of 1980, produced by the Israel Government Coins and Medals Corp.

RECENT WORLD COINS OF JUDAIC INTEREST

by Harry Flower

AINA LM 32

At the *Great Lakes Numismatic Seminar* sponsored by the Israel Numismatic Society of Cleveland, Ohio, (October 23-25, 1981) in Euclid, Ohio, I was a speaker on the subject "Categories of Judaic Collecting."

I had divided Judaic Collecting into fourteen major categories. Category XI was WORLD COINS OF JUDAIC INTEREST. This was divided into eight sub-categories. No. 8 was *Recent World Coins of Judaic Interest*.

This provided a partial numismatic description of recent world coins of Judaic Interest in the period from the 1960s to the present. This article deals only with coins, not medals or tokens. Issues of Palestine or Israel are not included.

Issues of *The Shekel*, March/April 1982 and May/June 1982, including an article by David Paszamant covering many coins featured in the original Category No. 8, will assist the reader to obtain a worldwide overview on this theme.

THE 1981 AUSTRIAN OTTO BAUER COMMEMORATIVE COIN



This coin was issued by Austria in 1981 to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Otto Bauer (1881-1938), Austrian Foreign Minister and leading socialist politician.

This 500-schilling coin (Y #168) was struck in silver .640 fine, 38 mm. in diameter, weighing 23.81 grams. The Vienna Mint struck 200,000 in proof; 85,000 special select uncirculated and 865,000 in commercial strike uncirculated. The edge has raised inscription, the num-

ber "500" repeated six times, separated by ornamentation.

The obverse of the coin features the head of the Austrian socialist leader to the left, his name "OTTO BAUER" and the anniversary dates "1881-1981" curved around the rim.

In the center of the reverse is the denomination, a large "500" and beneath "SCHILLING", surrounded by a circle of ten shields. Around the entire rim is the inscription "REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH".

THE 1979 COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA INDEPENDENCE COINS COMMEMORATING MIDEAST PEACE

These coins, bearing portraits of President Carter, Prime Minister Begin and President Sadat, were issued in 1979 to commemorate the Independence of the Commonwealth of Dominica and the Peace effort in the Middle East.

The coins were struck by the Royal Canadian Mint in Ottawa, Canada in \$20.00 silver and in \$150.00 and \$300.00 gold, in B.U. and in proof.

The obverse features the standard Arnold Machin portrait of Queen Elizabeth II to the right, dated "NOV. 3 1978", and curved around the top

rim is "COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA" and at the bottom "INDEPENDENCE".

Portrayed on the reverse, each with their national flag, are U.S. President James Carter in the center, Israeli Prime Minister Menachen Begin on the left, and on the right, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat. The denomination of "20 DOLLARS" is below (for the illustrated coin). The inscription around the rim is "PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST — 26 MARCH 1979".



Specifications:

\$ 20.00	Silver .925 fine	B.U.	45 mm.	41.00 grams
20.00	Silver .925 fine	Proof	45 mm.	41.00 grams
150.00	Gold .900 fine	B.U.	26 mm.	9.60 grams
150.00	Gold .900 fine	Proof	26 mm.	9.60 grams
300.00	Gold .900 fine	B.U.	32 mm.	19.20 grams
300.00	Gold .900 fine	Proof	32 mm.	19.20 grams

THE 1972 GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (East Germany) BUCHENWALD MEMORIAL COIN



This 10-mark coin was issued by the German Democratic Republic

(East Germany) in 1972 in memory of the victims of the Nazi regime as

memorialized by the Buchenwald Memorial.

The coins were struck by the German State Mint in Berlin; they were designed by Fitzenreiter and Bertram. There were 500,000 struck in copper-nickel 31 mm. in diameter each weighing 12 grams. The incuse lettered edge reads "10 MARK" repeated four times.

The obverse of the coin depicts a special sector of the sculpture of the

memorial in Buchenwald Concentration Camp. The legend around the rim is "MAHN-UND GEDENK-STATTE" and at the bottom "BUCHENWALD".

The reverse features the Arms of the country in the center; just above is a tiny "A", the mintmark of the Berlin Mint. Curved around the rim is "DEUTSCHE DEMOKRATISCHE REPUBLIK" (German Democratic Republic); below is "1972 10 MARK", the date and denomination.

THE 1974 PARAGUAY
EINSTEIN COMMEMORATIVE COINS



These Albert Einstein Coins were issued by the Republic of Paraguay as No. 4 in a series of 12 commemorating famous people of the world. They were struck in one size silver and in three sizes of gold. They are classified as "Non-circulating Legal Tender Coins" and are listed in the *Standard Catalog of World Coins* (Krause and Mishler, 1981 Edition), as H #23 for the silver and H #56, #83 and #115 for the gold. The date of issue was April 1974 and all varieties were struck in proof.

This side features the head of the

famous scientist in profile to the left. His name "ALBERT EINSTEIN" is curved around the top rim. A circle of dots surrounds the entire obverse.

Featured in the center of the reverse is the Paraguay Coat of Arms, a 5-pointed star with emanating rays, enclosed by a wreath. Just below is the divided date "19 74" and "150" (the denomination of the above illustrated silver coin); just beneath is the word "GUARANIES". Curved around the top rim is the country's official name "REPUBLICA DEL PARAGUAY".

Specifications:

H # 23	150 Quaranies	Silver	1000 fine	25.0 grams
H # 56	1500 Quaranies	Gold	900 fine	10.7 grams
H # 83	3000 Quaranies	Gold	900 fine	21.3 grams
H # 115	4500 Quaranies	Gold	900 fine	31.9 grams

THE 1979 POLISH WIENIAWSKI COMMEMORATIVE COINS



(1)



(2)



(3)

These 100-zlotych coins were issued by the Polish Peoples Republic in 1979 to commemorate and to honor Henryk Wieniawski (1835-1880). Henry (anglicized) Wieniawski was a celebrated Polish composer and violinist. He toured Europe with his brother Joseph, who was the pianist. He composed many works for violin, including two concertos and his popular *Legende*.

The Polish Government released two coins (1) and (3), for this commemoration. Both types were struck by the Warsaw Mint in proof, both with plain edges. The first (1) is a legal tender issue, 100 zlotych, .625 fine silver 32 mm. in diameter, each weighing 16.5 grams; the mintage was 30,000 with an issue price of \$14.00. The obverse features the bust of the famous violinist facing left, his name "HENRYK WIENIAWSKI" and the dates "1835-1880" curved around the rim. The coins were released in 2¼" x 2¼" lucite holders with blue inserts.

The pattern issue (3), called PROBA, is in reality a rejected design that was issued as a non-circulating, commemorative coin. Just as in the regular issue, these also are 100 zlotych, .625 fine silver, 32 mm. in diameter, each weighing 16.5 grams; the mintage was 3,000, the issue price was \$22.00. The obverse features a different portrait of the violinist, also facing left, his name "HENRYK WIENIAWSKI" around the sides and top, the dates "1835-1880" at the bottom. In the field above his left shoulder is the word "PROBA", in small letters. These Proba coins were also released in 2¼" x 2¼" lucite holders but with red inserts.

The two issues have a common reverse (2). In the center is the Polish Eagle, the divided date "19 79" beneath. At the bottom is the value, "100 Zł". Curved around the rim is the country's national name, "POLSKA RZECZPOSPOLITA LUDOWA".

THE 1969 GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (East Germany) HEINRICH HERTZ COMMEMORATIVE COIN



This 5-mark coin (Y #22) was issued by the German Democratic Re-

public (East Germany) in 1969 to commemorate the 75th anniversary

of the death Heinrich Hertz (1857-1894), the German physicist who discovered and demonstrated existence of electromagnetic waves, the essential element of today's radio and television, for example.

The coin was designed by Rosenthal and Bertram. The mintage of 100,000 pieces were struck by the German Mint in Berlin in copper-nickel, 29 mm. in diameter and weighing 12.2 grams. The edge inscription reads "5 MARK" repeated four times.

The obverse of the coin features the physicists's head to the right; curved above is his name "HEINRICH HERTZ"; curved below are the dates "1857-1894".

The reverse features the emblem of the country in the center; curved around most of the rim is "DEUTSCHE DEMOKRATISCHE REPUBLIK". In the center of the bottom is the denomination, a large "5", to the left is "1969" and to the right is "MARK". ☆

AWARD SET FOR DESIGN OF 1983 AINA MEMBERSHIP MEDAL

Each year, as part of membership renewal, members of AINA receive gift medals which over the years have been created from new medallic designs.

For 1983, AINA announces a Design Competition open to all AINA members who are invited to submit sketches, layouts, drawings, photographs, doodles or other descriptive drawings which indicate the essential design idea. There is no limit to the number of designs any one member may submit and there is no limitation on size or drawing skills to inhibit creativity. A \$100 cash prize is awarded to the Winner.

Submit Entries by Sept. 1

Entries must be submitted by September 1, 1982 for consideration by the AINA Executive Board. The winning design will be announced at the September Greater New York Currency and Coin Convention.

Those wishing to consider applicable designs should consider the following possible themes: that 1983 is AINA's 16th year; that AINA is essentially an educational organization; that AINA is dedicated to the

promotion of American interest in the numismatics of Israel; that AINA contributes to the total numismatic world by its vigorous promotion of collecting; that AINA is primarily a non-profit institution with participating members and clubs in most states and with some members abroad; and that the Membership Medal is a permanent part of AINA history.

Review Past Medals

Those who wish to submit are urged to review past Membership Medals as a guide to size, shape and technical considerations. The design must be round; that only limited sculpted effects are attainable; that lettering or art can be reduced only so far before it becomes unreadable or unrecognizable.

Entries will not be returned. All entries become property of AINA unless owners specifically request and provide for return of submitted material.

Entries should be sent to Medal Design Committee, AINA, Box 25790, Tamarac, Florida 33320. ♣

AINA'S FOURTEENTH ANNUAL STUDY TOUR

by Fred E. Roganson

The Fourteenth Annual Study Tour departed by E1-AL from New York's Kennedy Airport on Thursday, March 11, 1982. A representative of Uni-Tour, Rhea Attias provided gifts of AINA flight bags, drinks and large packages of almonds to brighten the briefing conducted at the airport by tour leader, Roganson.

The arrival at Ben Gurion Airport in Lod was cheerful. We were met by our guide, Eli, and Marilyn, Uni-tour's Israel representative. After recapturing our luggage we were

bussed to the Tel Aviv Hilton where we found cool rooms and a hot Sabbath dinner at which we celebrated the birthday of Mrs. Sydney Baken.

Our tour started the next morning with a trip South to Yad Mordecai which was marked by an unexpected severe hailstorm. This important kibbutz was the scene of delaying battles which held up an Egyptian army during the War of Independence.

On to the Negev. We visited S'Di Boker, the home of Ben Gurion. Our return was through the sea coast



PARTICIPANTS IN THE AINA STUDY TOUR

Tour guides, Mr. and Mrs. Fred E. Roganson, Conn.; guests, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Stone of Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Solomon Moro of New York; Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Baken of Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kaufman of Va.; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Levine of Texas; Mr. and Mrs. William Mendell of Ohio; Mr. H. Howard Clemmer of Calif.; Mrs. Lillian Janko of Calif.; Mrs. Harriet Parker of Ohio; Mr. Isidore Mindel of New York; Mr. Louis Berkie of Texas; Mr. and Mrs. Howard Miller of Penna.; and Ms. Selma Miller.



Top, center: Women of the Hasidic village of Kfar Chabad hand-rolling matzoh. Hon. Eliezer Shiloni of IGCAM and Mrs. Shiloni unwrap a gift from AINA; Bottom row, left: Mrs. Lillian D. Janko presents a WWII Jewish Chaplain's flag in memory of her parents Menachem Chaim and Simcha Tova Mizel to the National Maritime Museum in Haifa, represented by Dr. Joseph Ringel, Conservateur. Samuael Lachman, Haifa contributor to The Shekel and Mrs. Janko; and Orphans of Israel housed at Kfar Chabad. Photos by Lillian D. Janko.

cities of Ashkelon, home of Goliath, and to Ashdod, the Biblical village which is now an important oil shipment facility. We looked forward to that evening for a visit at dinner with the Israel Numismatic Society of Tel Aviv. Among our guests at this occasion were Dr. and Mrs. Arie Kindler of the Kadman Museum, renowned numismatist, Dr. E. Klimowsky, and Mr. and Mrs. Langlebin, numismatic editor of a leading newspaper.

On the following morning we visited Beit Hatefutsot, the Museum of the Diaspora. Displays at this center trace the dispersion of the Jews over the centuries. We continued on to Jaffa and Kfar Habad. Following lunch we visited a matzoh factory where unleavened bread is hand-made. At the kibbutz we visited the

school for youths. Our visit was in time to see matzoh being shipped for the 1982 Passover celebrations in Russia.

On to the Maritime Museum

Our visit to Haifa included a tour of the Maritime Museum where Mrs. Lillian Janko presented a Jewish Chaplain Banner. We found the presentation in a news story with photographs on the following day. We walked to the Museum which commemorates the running of the blockade, and we walked on the deck of a ship which had brought hundreds to Israel during the desperate period before 1948.

On March 19th we received word: "Pick up Army officer at Beit Agroa at 07:45 hours." With his presence

we were permitted a most delightful and enlightening day which included visits to the Allenby Bridge linking Israel to Jordan, and to an Army camp.

Our visit to Masada included special attention from the National Park Authority arranged for by Board member Arnold Kagan. We were permitted a visit to the power center for the cable car system prior to our tour of the mountain fortress of Herod overlooking the Dead Sea.

We visited a camp for new Army recruits, and were guided in a study of Israel's defense program by a representative of the *Association for the Welfare of Soldiers* in Israel. All were impressed by the dedication shown.

Near the Kennedy Memorial our group planted 41 trees to help launch a new planting area.

The climax of our visit to Israel was a visit to the offices of the *Israel Government Coins and Medals Corporation* in Jerusalem, and a farewell dinner hosted by Mr. Shironi. The

guest speaker was Mr. Sol Liebgott of South Africa. He brought us inside information on the dilemma in the South African community. We were thrilled to be personally welcomed at this event by Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Among our most memorable moments was surely our day on the Golan Heights, a visit to Mount Hermon, and the unforgettable Good Fence on the Lebanon border. We were able to understand the plea of Major Haddad, a Christian Lebanese who continues to plead for help for his suffering compatriots.

For the record: We traveled 1100 miles in a country which is only the size of the State of New Jersey. We visited four cities, eight towns, and we climbed a total of 1045 steps. Our group had nothing but compliments for Eli, our guide, who proved to have outstanding ability and memorable tact.

Next year will be AINA's Fifteenth Tour. Some of those of this our may wish to repeat the experience. They hope you will join them.



Fred E. Roganson (left) welcomes AINA tour guests before start of trip.

Letter to Dr. Moshe Wallach

By Stanley Yulish

The Doctor had made a contribution to the Sephardic community of Hebron in 1903. The letter thanks him and was written by The Grand Rabbin HAIM, HESKIA MEDINI (1832-1904). Medini's pulpit was in the Crimean Peninsula as a youth. He was an ardent Zionist and in 1899 he returned to Jerusalem. Shortly thereafter, he was offered the Post of Sephardic Chief Rabbi but he refused the office. He moved to Hebron where he served as founder of a Yeshivah. He was respected by non-Jews as well who honored him and regarded him as a wonder worker.

Medini is most remembered for his *Seder Hamed*, a Halakhic Encyclopedia which is still used to this day. It contains the *Rules of Talmudic and Halakhic Methodology* as well as an alphabetical list of various laws and bibliographical research on Jewish scholars and the history of Eretz Yisrael.

His *Ethical Will* in Volume 14 of his studies is a lasting monument to his memory. — "Encyclopedia Judaica Volume 11, page 1216"

"THE COVENANT OF THE FATHERS MUST BE A REMEMBRANCE TO THE CHILDREN"

Chief Rabbi in the Holy City of HEBRON
CHAIM HEZEKIAH MEDINI
and Head of the Israel Sephardic Congregation
in the Holy City of HEBRON

On the eighth day of the month tevet (January, February) 1903 (of the year 5663)

BLESSINGS and peace from everybody to the Head of the greatest of friends and my dearest personal friend, the brilliant physician, dear and exalted, illustrious and noble, DR. MOSHEH WALLACH whose name is the brightest under the sun.

DEAR AND EXALTED SIR:

We have been told that a donation of 500 francs is available through your Honor to be shared by our Sephardic as well as Ashkenazic Holy Congregations. Now, although the plague has passed from us and the people have gone back each one to his occupation, the dearth and the need are still with us, and the eyes of our congregation members are still aching from sorrow. Therefore, what joy it is to have the honor to share such a splendid gift and have you as the trustee for its distribution. No better time could have been chosen! I wish to express to you, your Honor, my sincerest thanks.

I recognize and highly respect your activities and pray for you for a long life of happiness.

Signed: Chief Rabbi Chaim Hezekiah Medini
(Stamp of the Chief Rabbi Chaim Hezekiah Medini)

The document illustrated is hand signed by Rabbi Medini and contains his official seal. ✡



PINCHASS PIOTER RUTHENBERG

By Eli Semmelman,
Haifa Israel

Recently I visited an old friend of the Haifa Numismatic Society, a collector of ancient Greek coins, Mr. E. Cohen. He was an engineer in the Israel Electric Co. until his retirement. While admiring a few art pieces (I apologize for my love of art and coins), I saw on his working table the medal pictured here.

The medal is of Pinchass Ruthenberg; on the reverse side is depicted the Electric Works of Naharayim. Pinchass Ruthenberg was born in Romany Ukrainah in 1879; he died in Jerusalem in 1942. He was of the leaders of the Jewish Yishuv (settlement) in Israel. Founder of the Palestine Electric co. In his youth, he was one of the most active members of the Russian Revolution movement. Ruthenberg studied engineering in the Technical Institute in St. Petersburg, and was foreman in the great metal plant, Putilov. He was active in the Social Democratic Party and later in the Social Revolution Party.

As a student, in 1905 he was one of the organisers of the workers march to the Czar's palace on the "bloody Sunday", together with the priest Gapon. The march failed and there were many casualties among the demonstrators. Ruthenberg was one of the initiators of a plan to execute Gapon who was suspected of being an agent of the "Uchrana" (the Czar's secret police). Between the years 1907-1915, Ruthenberg lived in Italy, working there as an engineer, he investigated irrigation problems and discovered new methods in building dams to create water power to produce electricity.

At the outbreak of the first World War he began to take interest in Judaism. He founded the Pro Causa Hebraica Society (for the Jewish Cause Society.) In 1915 he invited Jabotinsky to meet him in Italy. As a result of their talks, they decided to create an active partnership to re-



cruit Jews and to create Jewish regiments to fight on the British side in Israel. Before he left for the U.S. to work for the idea of the Jewish Regiment, Ruthenberg composed a pamphlet, *The National Reenlivening of the Jewish People*. He signed by pen name: Pinchass Ben Amy. In the U.S. he disputed with Ben Gurion and Ben Zvi as to a best way to recruit the Jewish Regiment. Around him he gathered Borochov, Zitlovsky and Sirkin. His Zionist activity was strongly opposed by the Bund Organization.

When the regime of the Czar was ended by the February 1917 revolution, Ruthenberg returned to Russia where he was nominated by Keren-sky as Vice Governor for Civilian Affairs of the City of St. Petersburg. After the fall of Kerensky, Ruthenberg was arrested. When he was released from jail he moved to the Ukraine where he served as Minister of Supply in the White Russian Government till the area was occupied by the Bolsheviks.

In 1919 he immigrated to Israel and dedicated himself to survey of the water sources of Israel as preparation to production of electricity. In the 1920 riots in Palestine, together with Jabotinsky he organized the defense of Jerusalem. When Jabotinsky was arrested, he led the defense.

In his activity, he tried to persuade the Authorities that the Irgun should be legal. In the riots of 1921, he led the Haganah (defense) of Tel Aviv. Following strife between Ruthenberg and the "Hashomer" organization because of Ruthenberg's opposition to the demand of the members of "Hashomer" that he turn over the leadership to the hands of a "People's Committee", Ruthenberg reduced his activity in the Haganah. Because of this, he devoted himself to the building of the Electric Company.

In 1921 he received the rights to exploit the water of the River Jordan and the River Yarmuk to produce electricity, despite strong opposition from a few Parliament members in Britain. He had support of Churchill, then Minister of Colonies of England. After raising the needed amount of money with the help of Alfred Mond (Lord Melchet), Lord Riding, Lord Samuel and others, in 1923 he founded the Palestine Electric Co.

In 1928 he started to build the power dam in Naharayim, which was inaugurated in 1932. In the 1929 wailing wall crisis, and the efforts towards erection of the Jewish National House, following riots Ruthenberg was placed at the head of Hawa'ad Haleumi (National Committee) till the crisis passed.

He Mediates

In 1930 he was nominated chairman of the Security Committee. After the murder of Arlosorov, he tried to make peace between the Revisionists and the Histadruth. In 1934, Jabotinsky and Ben Gurion came to an agreement through his mediation, later rejected by the Histadruth. In the Thirties he submitted to the Jewish Agency a memorandum in which he offered to compromise with the Arabs on the issue of Arab labourers working at Jewish undertakings; of buying land from the Arabs, and Jewish immigration to Palestine. He was a member of Group "5" together with Magness, Smilansky, Novomjesky, and Froumkin which tried to come to an Arab-Jewish understanding. Despite his ties with King Abdalah, then Prince of Trans-Jordan, his efforts failed because of the demand of the Arabs for a drastic reduction of Jewish immigration to Palestine.

In 1940 he was again placed at the head of the National Committee, but because of illness, he only served a

short time. In his will, he called for national unity and for education of the young generation in this spirit. His property was left for education causes; his house on Mt. Carmel today is a center of youth activity.

The Dam on the Medal

The reverse of the medal shows the dam of Naharayim. In 1928, the Electric Company started to erect the power station on the Jordan River. The plan of this hydro-electric plant was based on exploitation of Kinereth Lake, collecting the water of the Jordan River which increased in winter. A dam was built which parted the Jordan south of Kinereth, enabling the accumulation of the water of the Upper Jordan, and regulating its water as needed. The collecting capacity of the artificial lake was 600 million cubic meters. Two more dams were erected 10 kilometers south of the Kinereth Lake, one on the Jordan, the other on the Yarmuk River. A canal of 1700 meters was built for the diversion of Jordan water to the artificial lake created near the Yarmuk Dam.

The power station was built near the mouth of the River Yarmuk join-

ing the Jordan River. To exploit the water of the two rivers at this station, three turbines to produce 6,000 kilowatt power each were erected.

The power station on the Jordan was taken out of use while that part which was on the territory of Trans-Jordan was occupied by Arab armies in May 1948.

59 mm Medal

The medal is 59 mm. in diameter, minted in the incuse system. The medal is probably brass; the incuse is painted in a brown colour. I believe 60 pieces of this medal were minted.

At a meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society management in Jerusalem, I showed the picture of this medal to one of the leading medal collectors in Israel. He was astonished to learn of the existence of this medal.

Pinchass Ruthenberg was an extraordinary person, active in Jewish matters. He built an extraordinary project: The Israel Electric Company. Sadly, he is almost forgotten today. Perhaps this article brings to life the memory of this outstanding man. ❏

COMING TO THE SHEKEL

HOLOCAUST

NUMISMATICS

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1982

A Memorable Issue! A Unique Study!

IN MEMORIAM

SGT. EYTAN AVNI

(1962-1982)

SON OF YITZHAK AVNI KILLED IN LEBANON BATTLE

In early June, Sergeant Eytan Avni fulfilled one of his dreams. He was transferred to a Merkava Tank in Israel. "*Merkava is the Rolls-Royce of our Tank Units*," he would say.

During the weekend prior to the advance onto Lebanon, Eytan was at home, on leave. He learned of Operation "*Peace to the Galilee*" and left immediately to join his unit. The Division Deputy Commander's tank was in need of a communications specialist. Although Eytan was a qualified tank commander, he was pleased to be offered the communications position in the command tank.

Eytan was killed in the battle of Tyre during the first day of the war.

He was born 20 years ago in San Francisco, California while his parents were stationed at the Consul's office. His father was Yitzhak Avni, later to be Director of the IGCAM.

Eytan was the only boy in a family, with three older sisters. When he was one year old, the family returned to Jerusalem.

In the summer of 1975, he came to the U.S. to celebrate his Bar Mitzvah. He arrived with his father, the late Yitzhak Avni. They attended the ANA Convention in Los Angeles, as well as many AINA functions.

He returned to America again in June 1980 following his graduation from high school. With a friend, he purchased a car to travel cross-country. In August he returned to Israel to join the Army.

Eytan's friends recalled that he loved sports, especially driving, horseback riding, and music. He played a number of musical instruments and adored jazz. "*He was a wonderful kid who enjoyed life. Unfortunately, it all ended too soon*," remarked one of his sisters.

On June 7, Eytan was buried on Mount Herzl, next to the grave of his uncle, Hayim Gur-Arye, killed in 1948 during the War of Independence in Jerusalem.

The American Israel Numismatic Association through its president Morris Bram has expressed condolences to the Avni family. 



Photo courtesy COIN WORLD

Eytan and Yitzhak Avni—Los Angeles, 1975.

Israel One-Pound Coins of 1974

by Dov Basker (Rehovot, Israel)

Israel's one-pound coins of 1974 are known in two mintings: these did not differ in average weight, volume or specific gravity. Besides the large difference (approximately 0.15 mm, or 8%) in edge height, a difference was found in the height of the reverse relief (approximately 0.04 mm), a difference which decreased during circulation. Edges of the thinner coins were found to wear significantly during circulation.



Israel's one-pound coins of 1974 were minted both in Jerusalem and in Canada, and the resulting coins differ in apparent thickness (Ram, 1974; Haffner, 1976). Differences between circulated coins of the two mintings were examined in 1975, 1977 and 1980.

Methods

During May 1975, a number of coins of the two types were collected in the course of ordinary commerce. The thicknesses of the coins was measured with a micrometer screw gauge graduated in 0.01 mm units, and read with approximately 0.001 mm accuracy. The thickness was measured at four positions:

- (a) the edge of the coins;
- (b) a position where there was no high relief on the obverse, but where lettering was present in high relief on the reverse;
- (c) a position where there was

no high relief on the reverse, but where a design was present in high relief on the obverse; and

(d) a position where high relief was present on both sides of the coins.



This procedure was adopted as there was no position where the 5 mm diameter heads of the micrometer screw gauge could lie flush with the two surfaces without interference by high relief. In this manner, the thickness of coins below the high relief could be calculated, as well as the heights of the reliefs on both sides.

Each coin was weighed to the nearest 0.01 gm, and its volume determined to the nearest 0.05 ml, using a hydrometer built for the purpose. With this data the approximate specific gravity of each coin could then be calculated.

During December 1977, a further 23 coins of the two types were collected in the course of ordinary commerce. The weights of the coins were determined as before, as were the heights of the high relief on both sides, and the thickness of the coins below the high relief. The thickness of the coins at their edges was measured at six positions on each coin (because of irregular wear), three where milling was present and three where it was absent.

During March 1980, a further 27 coins of the two types were collected and measured, their pending removal from circulation having been announced.

Table 1

Physical Characteristics of Israel One-Pound Coins of 1974

(mean values \pm standard deviations)

Mint	Jerusalem	Canada
Mintage (x 1,000)	2,285	4,000
Number of coins examined		
May 1975	13	12
December 1977	6	17
March 1980	12	15
Thickness at edge (mm)		
May 1975	2.12 \pm 0.02	1.97 \pm 0.05
December 1977	2.10 \pm 0.05	1.91 \pm 0.03
March 1980	2.00 \pm 0.03	1.93 \pm 0.03
Thickness below high reliefs (mm)		
May 1975	1.73 \pm 0.04	1.72 \pm 0.04
December 1977	1.70 \pm 0.03	1.70 \pm 0.04
March 1980	1.69 \pm 0.04	1.70 \pm 0.04
Height of obverse relief (mm)		
May 1975	0.15 \pm 0.03	0.15 \pm 0.05
December 1977	0.18 \pm 0.01	0.14 \pm 0.02
March 1980	0.14 \pm 0.02	0.15 \pm 0.02
Height of reverse relief (mm)		
May 1975	0.06 \pm 0.03	0.10 \pm 0.02
December 1977	0.06 \pm 0.01	0.08 \pm 0.02
March 1980	0.07 \pm 0.03	0.10 \pm 0.03
Weight (gm)		
May 1975	9.06 \pm 0.09	9.05 \pm 0.11
December 1977	9.01 \pm 0.08	8.96 \pm 0.14
March 1980	9.04 \pm 0.11	9.05 \pm 0.13
Volume (ml)		
May 1975	1.16 \pm 0.08	1.12 \pm 0.13
Specific gravity		
May 1975	7.8 \pm 0.5	8.2 \pm 0.9

Results and Conclusions

The results obtained are summarized in Table 1, which gives the mean values and the standard deviations found.

The most conspicuous difference between the two mintings was in the edge height of the coins, and this was statistically very highly significant ($p < 0.0001$). During the course of circulation from May 1975 to December 1977, the edge height of the (thinner) Canadian minting decreased with statistical significance,

but then did not decrease further ($0.001 < p < 0.005$). No such decrease was found with the (thicker) Jerusalem minting. No statistically significant difference was found in the edge height of either minting between the milled and unmilled positions (December 1977).


No difference was found in the thickness of the coins below the high reliefs, between the two mintings.

A difference was found between the two mintings in the height of the obverse relief only in December 1977 ($0.005 < p < 0.01$), for which no explana-

tion is offered. In the aggregate, no difference was found.

A statistically very highly significant difference between the two mintings in the heights of the reverse relief was found in May 1975 ($p < 0.0001$). This difference decreased on further circulation, but in the aggregate the reverse relief remained higher in the (thinner) Canadian minting than in the (thicker) Jerusalem minting; this difference is palpable to the touch.

No difference was found between the two mintings in the weight of the coins, their volume or their specific gravity. (Italics—Ed.)

The differences in edge and reverse relief heights between the two mintings could be the cause of the difference found in their "clink" on a hard surface (Ram, 1974). 

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HOW YOU CAN HELP ISRAEL'S GROWTH THROUGH NUMISMATICS

- Join an INS Club. Then bring a friend, neighbor or relative to meetings to interest him in your hobby.
- If you don't live in or near a city with a club, form an INS Club. Write to AINA for assistance and contacts in your area.
- If you can't form an INS Club, loan this copy of THE SHEKEL to a neighbor or friend.
- Make a talk about Israel Numismatics to your social club, Temple group or to a circle of neighbors. AINA will donate a few issues of THE SHEKEL and some numismatic gifts for your first meeting with youths or adults.
- Call the local Hebrew school and offer to talk about your coin collection to the students.
- Call a local coin club and join. Then make a talk about AINA and your Israel coin collection.
- Bring a recent coin from your collection to your office, shop or plant. Tell your associates about AINA.

BRING IN ONE NEW MEMBER THIS YEAR.



COINS OF THE BIBLE

David Hendin



The second King Agrippa

(11th of 12 parts)

I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee.... Then Agrippa said unto Paul: Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian. (Acts 26: 2, 28)

When his father died in 44 A.D., Agrippa II was only 17. Claudius wanted to give him at least part of the kingdom of Agrippa I, but advisers argued that he was too young. So, Claudius again brought the Jewish kingdom under direct rule of Rome, sending Procurator Cuspius Fadus to govern.

But with the death in 48 A.D. of Herod, king of Chalcis, Claudius gave that throne to Agrippa II. Not long before he died, Claudius transferred Agrippa to a larger kingdom, giving him Philip's old tetrarchy as well as some other areas.

Nero, the next emperor, also added to Agrippa II's kingdom, giving him lands in Galilee and Peraea. The one area that never fell under Agrippa II's rule was Judea,

which was still governed by procurators. However, Agrippa II was given the right to oversee the affairs of the Jerusalem Temple and to appoint the high priest.

Agrippa II was known as a weak ruler, but still he ruled for nearly 50 years because of his loyalty to Rome.

His bronze coins carried portraits of the emperors under whom he ruled — Nero, Vespasian, Titus and Domitian.

In trying to show his loyalty to Nero, Agrippa II changed the name of Caesarea Philippi to Neronias. Agrippa and his sister, Berenice, unsuccessfully tried to talk the Jews out of starting the war that eventually resulted in the destruction of Jerusalem and its Temple.

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)



BRONZE COIN of Agrippa II, minted in 73 A.D. Obverse: Head of Titus. Reverse: The goddess Tyche.

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